

station-houses which were seized yesterday by Deputy Commissioner Ladd, and will be searched for evidence of neglect against captains.

"TURN OUT THE LOT," SAYS PARKHURST.

In spite of the general movement among civic bodies for the general reformation of the public departments of New York, the Rev. Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst, the head of the Society for the Prevention of Crime, is as pessimistic over the situation as ever. At his home Dr. Parkhurst gave a statement to The Evening World to-day, his most important utterance being that in favor of legislating the entire police force out of office and then, through a commission to be appointed by the Legislature and to be made up of men of unquestioned probity, restate the large percentage of honest men in the department. Any movement less drastic than that cannot accomplish the sweeping change that is absolutely needed, says the minister. Commissioner McAdoo took the radical step to-day of organizing a new detective bureau to be under his own direction and to deal exclusively with gambling and immoral resorts.

"When we wrote our letter recently to Commissioner McAdoo," said Dr. Parkhurst, "we recognized the inability of the Commissioner to enforce laws thoroughly under present conditions. We know as well as anyone that as things stand now no man living could go to the head of the Police Department and enforce the laws as they should be enforced. There are two sides to this great question, and our eighteen years of observation have taught us to regard both sides. Therefore, we know that the Police Commissioner cannot enforce the laws as they stand until the Police Department has first been reconstructed."

TURN THE ENTIRE CROWD OUT

"I do not think that the entire force should be thrown out of office, for I know that there are honest men as well as rogues among them. Therefore, the only way is to legislate the entire crowd out, then appoint a committee similar to the Lexow Committee, and give it the power to take up the situation precinct by precinct, man by man, reinstating at once all those men who are found to be honest and faithful public servants. Enough of them would be found, I assure you, to make the nucleus of what would ultimately be the finest force in the world."

"There is a great wave of moral enthusiasm sweeping over our city just now and that is why we hear so much talk of reforming this and reforming that. But like all waves of this kind it will soon sweep by. Nothing is born so quickly as moral indignation, and nothing dies so quickly. While it lasts much good is always accomplished, but it doesn't last for the present wave will soon die. We had one just like it in 18. When the Lexow Committee was appointed to investigate the police force."

"We learned that moral indignation is a very inconsistent and uncertain thing. We expect to learn the same thing again soon."

MORE CRIME THAN EVER NOW

"There is more gambling and general crime in New York City just now than ever before. Never in the history of our society have we had so many complaints of gambling, of the existence of immoral resorts and of constant violations of laws."

"We expect the present agitation to last until summer, but no longer. In the summer those folks who form themselves into a sort of vigilance committee always relax their efforts and everything is quiet save Wall Street, the gamblers and the excise violators. Those who spend a lot of time observing the awfulness of conditions in the winter have a way of relaxing their efforts as soon as summer comes."

"So I say that this is the time for us to make the Legislature take a radical step. That is the only remedy in sight. The Police Commissioner shifts his captains and inspectors around when he doesn't like the way things are going, but absolutely no good has ever been accomplished in this way. Then we change our Commissioner and what do we get? Why, the same state of affairs."

"It is now thirteen years since the first movement was made that resulted in the appointment of the Lexow Committee and the force is as bad, if not worse, than it was then. The lid is off. There is no denying that."

Tammany a Gang of Thieves

"My suggestion of the best way to combat this disease from which we suffer is to legislate that I have little to say about it. It will be adopted. The Tammany political party, the Tammany political party, because it's a political party, will just call it the Tammany political party, and Tammany Hall. Well, just take these three and see how every move makes for the benefit of itself without regard to the people themselves. I have read the thing carefully and I know only too well the truth of what I say. When Greene tried his best to value the force to a high level, but he failed. He did get out of it by hard work eliminated some of those men who were of absolutely no benefit to the Department, but what was the result? They were promptly reinstated by the courts. Surely if the Legislature gives us nothing else, it ought to give us an act to prevent any appeal to the courts for a disgraced inspector, captain or other policeman."

Discredited, but Reinstated

"Don't think of the men in the Department who have been discredited. Don't think of the men who have been able to appeal to the courts for reinstatement. There should be some way to weed such men out without leaving them a way to get back again. This idea of a vigilance committee is all right. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. But let every citizen of a vigilance committee in himself. The officials will be better men morally when they know that the eyes of honest men are on them all the time."

Trouble is National

"There is a spirit of lawlessness just now pervading the whole country, and its chief force is found right here. It is not a local matter, but a general disregard for authority and a general desire for individual liberty which is the cause of the trouble."

14,275 Letters In One Day

Less than one in ten of those who use the Sunday World Want columns have their replies sent to them care of the World office. Thus only 172 "Wants" called for such replies on Sunday, Jan. 8, but they brought 14,275 answers.

14,275 Answers

The next day. Think of it! The mail on a town of 50,000 inhabitants sent to the World office in one day for a few advertisers.

McLAUGHLIN ESTATE SUED FOR \$600,000

Ex-Senator Coffey Says Hugh McLaughlin and Others Cheated Him.

ON TRACTION DEAL.

Says He Only Got Share in One-Quarter Profits of Nassau Co. Sale.

Former State Senator Michael J. Coffey, of Brooklyn, to-day filed a claim for \$600,000 against the estate of the late Hugh McLaughlin, claiming that McLaughlin, James Shevlin, Patrick H. Flynn and former Senator John McCarty, all of Brooklyn, double-crossed him at the time the Nassau Street Railroad Company was absorbed by lease by the Brooklyn Heights Railroad Company.

In brief, the claim that Coffey makes is that at the time the Nassau Company practically went into the hands of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company the negotiations were carried on on behalf of himself and certain others interested, by Patrick H. Flynn, who was the old head of the Flynn street railroad syndicate. When the profits of the deal were divided, Coffey claims, Flynn, McLaughlin, Shevlin and McCarty split up three-quarters of the amount between them and then represented the remaining quarter as the entire proceeds of the deal. This quarter, he claims, was split up among them all and it was not until recently that Coffey learned that he had been double-crossed, he says.

Coffey's case is in the hands of former Police Commissioner Andrew D. Parker, while the McLaughlin family attorney is ex-Justice Augustus Van Wyck. Coffey and McLaughlin were at one time intimate personal and political friends. Then came the row which resulted in Coffey being practically forced out of the Kings County Democratic organization. Coffey blamed McLaughlin for his political undoing at this time. The two men have never been friends again.

The estate of the late Hugh McLaughlin is estimated at between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000. The old leader didn't leave any will. In filing his claim for \$600,000 against the estate to-day, Coffey claims that he only recently discovered that McLaughlin was in the game by which he was double-crossed.

JEROME'S SUNDAY LIQUOR BILL IN.

Amendment Permits Saloons to Do Business from 12 to 11 P. M.—Senator Foley Presents It.

ALBANY, Jan. 17.—Senator Foley to-day introduced District Attorney Jerome's amendment to the liquor law permitting the sale of liquor on Sunday between 12 and 11 P. M. in cities having a population of more than 1,500,000.

The Foley bill is the same bill except in a few details that District Attorney Jerome tried to get through the Legislature last winter. The Jerome bill a year ago raised a storm of protest, and after juggling it for some time the Legislature sent it to the graveyard. Mr. Jerome said at the time that he meant to keep coming with his bill until he got it through.

The impression in this city is that the Jerome bill will get a far better chance this time than it got a year ago. In the first place, the opposition to it will not be so strong.

The contents of New York's on the subject of a limited open Sunday have undergone a change in the past year, and many people who opposed the measure when it was first brought up are now prepared, if not to openly oppose it, at least not to openly oppose it.

What's the Use of Another Law? "The excise law is never enforced at all in this city, save for purposes of extortion. Now, they are talking of changing the excise law. They want to give us another law to add to the laws we already have. The use of another excise law? The present one is not respected by the Mayor or our city, the Police Commissioner, the excise law is not respected by any other members of the uniformed force. If we have a new excise law it will simply be used as the old one has always been used as a means for revenue by the police force."

"I believe in doing things thoroughly or not at all. I do not believe in making changes that change nothing for the purpose of placating a foolish public. Now, they are talking of changing the excise law. I like to see the town set a little clear rule. If we could and an honest car to administer things. A little military rule for the people would not be a bad thing either. If we could get the people stirred up just once, so that they'd stand up long enough for us to accomplish something, it would be a grand good thing."

M AD OO TO CREATE DETECTIVE BUREAU.

The greatest sensation that Police Headquarters has experienced in years was sprung to-day by Commissioner McAdoo when he announced that he had ordered the formation of a new detective bureau, which is to operate independent of the Central Office.

Detective Sergeant Ezzers, who was transferred from the Central Office to the new bureau, will be the head of the new bureau.

Ezzers is one of the policemen in whom the Commissioner has full confidence, and he will be given the widest latitude in operating his arm of the service. The Commissioner has instructed him to pick men he knows to be honest, reliable and ambitious, and no time has been sent to several station-

HANNAH ELIAS AND PLATT IN COURT.



PLATT FEELS ABOUT HANNAH ELIAS

Voice Quavers, Memory Fails as on Stand He Faces Negress.

AVOIDS HER GAZE. Tries to Hide Behind Ledger as He Tells How He Was Duped for \$685,000.

During recess in the Platt-Elias trial to-day, after the aged millionaire, whose suit to recover \$685,000 he gave the negress was on trial before Justice O'Gorman, had told in quavering tones of his relations with her over a period of years, Mrs. Elias chatted gayly with the white man and white woman in attendance upon her. An Evening World reporter asked her if she would talk about her case.

"The newspapers have maligned me," Mrs. Elias replied, smiling and showing her teeth, "that I hate to say anything for publication."

"Will you say whether or not it is true that your relations with Mr. Platt ceased three years ago, as he testified to-day?"

"Never said she was white. That is false," Mrs. Elias retorted with wrath. "Our relations continued up to the last moment. I also want to deny the reports and statements that I deceived Mr. Platt into thinking that I was a white woman. I never tried to make him think that I was anything but what he could see I am. I also want to deny that I ever wore a wig or did other foolish things to impose on Mr. Platt."

"It has been intimated that you have been subjected to blackmail," asked the reporter.

"I prefer not to say anything about that," Mrs. Elias replied. "I will tell all when I get on the stand."

"I want to add that I never sent Kato, my Japanese servant, or any one else for Mr. Platt. He always came to my house of his own volition."

When the case was called on, Mrs. Elias was represented by an elaborate array of counsel. Washington Braun was the personal attorney, and the firm of Black, Olcott, Gruber & Bonyne came forward as valuable auxiliaries. Abe Gruber, rosy cheeked and with his usual spreading grin, was early on hand, and announced that his client would not be far behind him. The crush in court was terrific.

The Court wasted no time in preliminaries, but called on the counsel for the plaintiff to open his case.

When the brief recapitulated the remarkable career of Hannah Elias and the manner in which she would the plaintiff in her fascinations.

The octogenarian plaintiff was brought into court after the rust and struggle in the courtroom had subsided. There was a large number of gray-bearded old men in the courtroom, as the case was called on, and recognized. His feebleness made it necessary for him to be supported to his seat. His hair was white, his face was ruddy, but his white-blue eyes were dim and his chin shook tremulously.

After finishing his speech, ex-Gov. Black called for the defendant, Mrs. Elias, a money lender, to the stand, as the first witness.

He asked Mrs. Elias to state her age and that she had been seventy years for twenty years. He did not know Hannah Elias, he never remembered having seen her. He had never lived any of the houses Hannah Elias lived in, he never saw a cent to a colored woman in his life.

The witness was excused and Mr. Platt was called to the stand.

He was barely able to totter there when the case was called on, and he looked so tired that he was almost unrecognizable. He was not in court.

"You are the plaintiff in this case?" asked Mr. Warren.

"I believe so," quavered the old man. He did not remember when he had first met Mrs. Elias, but he remembered that it was when the young woman of Philadelphia was in New York. He had taken them out to show them the town, and he had seen her in the hotel and there met the octogenarian Mr. Platt was then sixty-five years old.

Difficult to Remember. The aged witness recalled with difficulty the meeting with the negress in 1886.

"On that occasion did this woman and her companions dance the tango for you and your friends?" asked the lawyer.

"I rather think they did," replied Mr. Platt tremulously.

"Were they dressed or undressed?" asked the lawyer.

"I think they were dressed, but I am not sure."

Before answering this question a ledger came over the octogenarian's face.

Ledger Didn't Help Him. Continuing his questioning of the plaintiff, Mr. Warren asked if he remembered giving the defendant a check for \$685,000 on the occasion of one of his visits to the "massage parlor" on Third Avenue in May, 1886.

"Yes," said Mr. Platt, then seventy-seven years old. He could not recall this fact, and even when a ledger was shown him it did not entirely refresh his memory.

Asked if he remembered giving the octogenarian money to start a boarding-house for the negress, he replied:

"I think I did."

It was a great effort for the doddering old man to remember that Mrs. Elias had started a boarding-house at No. 156 West Fifty-third Street.

Hannah Elias Arrives. At this juncture the negress entered the courtroom, dressed in a black gown of simple design and wore a white face paint about her neck. Her hat was black and she had a broad veil with large dots.

As soon as the eyes of the old man fell on the defendant his head jerked back and his eyes were fixed on a whisper that could not be heard ten feet away.

She, Mrs. Elias, looked straight into the eyes of the aged man without expression. Mr. Warren brought out that Mr. Platt had kept an account of the various sums of money he had given to Mrs. Elias. He had sold bonds and obtained cash which he took to her and delivered in person. He had made notes of the sums he gave her to purchase the houses at No. 156 West Fifty-third Street, No. 72 West Fifty-third Street and No. 76 Central Park West.

Mr. Black then asked Mrs. Elias to state her age and that she had been seventy years for twenty years. He did not know Hannah Elias, he never remembered having seen her. He had never lived any of the houses Hannah Elias lived in, he never saw a cent to a colored woman in his life.

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